



Dear Parents/Carers and Students

WGS Newsletter (58) 15/07/2021

We take our responsibility to educate and protect your children very seriously at Wood Green. We are really looking forward to being able to welcome all students back in September with the hope that we can have all have our first unaffected year of full-time education since the 2018/19 school year. We have lots of exciting and ambitious plan for our students and staff raring to get going again properly in the new school.

Alongside the exciting lessons and extra-curricular activities that we have planned, we also want to continue our equally important work in developing young people who always behave in a safe and respectful way. Students responded magnificently to our recent diversity, equality and inclusion survey and we will be sharing the results of the survey with them and yourselves in September. We really appreciate your support in promoting the values of respect and safety with your children and your support for the work to try and eliminate discrimination in our school.

Many of you will be aware of the recent shocking review carried out by OFSTED about the levels of sexual abuse and harassment in schools. There is a link at the end of this message to the report. We believe it is important to let our students know that we are aware of this review and that we are taking our responsibility to respond to it seriously. This message is to let you know that we will be delivering a recorded assembly to all students in years 7-10 and year 12 tomorrow morning to begin to address some of the themes raised in the review.

This morning, students have been told that there will be an assembly on this topic in order to allow them to be prepared for watching it. The assembly is just calmy summarising some of the key factual messages from the review. It is no in anyway graphic or designed to cause any distress to any child. We believe that children in all years need to understand how to keep themselves safe and the language used is designed for students from year 7 through to 12. Year 7 tutors will help their group understand the messages by using the same kind of language that is used in their PSHE lessons when discussing sex education. The overarching message of the assembly is about protecting yourself and others.

The assembly summarises some of the evidence of what boys and girls reported happening to them in the review, makes it clear what is meant by sexual abuse or harassment, explains what the consequences would be for any student found out to be involved in abusing or harassing another student either in school or online and then gives some advice about what to do if you are a victim or know someone who is. The second link at the bottom of this e-mail gives excellent advice to students and parents about dealing with online exploitation.

We have warned students today about the topic to allow them to miss the assembly if they feel it will be too difficult for them to watch for any reason. Tutors have also checked up on their groups after toady's warning. If a student does not want to see the assembly, we have asked them to register at student reception between 8.25 and 8.30 and then sit quietly in the grounds until the start of period one at 8.45am. Staff will be around in the grounds supervising. If any student wishes to discuss anything after seeing the video, staff will be available in the library after school tomorrow to talk to.

We know that an assembly will not deal with this problem alone. This is just the start of a longer-term strategy to eliminate all types of discrimination in our school and will go hand in hand with our diversity, equality and inclusion strategy in September. 35 staff have been involved in the production of the video to illustrate that we are all committed to challenging discriminatory and harassing behaviours. We appreciate your ongoing support

to help us continue to improve Wood Green School as a safe and respectful environment where children can learn well.

If you would like to discuss anything raised by the report, please feel free to contact me at school. If you wish to discuss a specific incident involving your child, please contact their tutor in the first instance.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-sexual-abuse-in-schools-and-colleges>



[Review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges - GOV.UK](#)

Ofsted was asked by the government to carry out a rapid review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges. This report summarises our findings and recommendations.

www.gov.uk

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>

[Are you worried about online sexual abuse or the way someone has been communicating with you online? - CEOP](#)

Are you being bullied? If you are being bullied, or you are not ready to make a report to CEOP, you can talk to Childline anonymously online or on the phone - No worry is too big or too small.

www.ceop.police.uk

Yours sincerely
Mr I Goddard
Deputy Headteacher